

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
EB-08 INT-05 /072 W
-----041030Z 049612 /10

R 040846Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2625
SECDEF WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE
INFO JCS WASHDC
FEDERAL PREPAREDNESS AGENCY GSA WASHDC
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC
HQS MAC SCOTT AFB ILLINOIS
CSAF WASHDC
HQS USAFE RAMSTEIN GER
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USDOCO KOLSAAS NO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1914

TRANSPORTATION FOR OET

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING (CEP); CIVIL AVIATION
PLANNING COMMITTEE (CAPC) MEETING - APRIL 13-14, 1977

REF: USANTO 1792, DTG 291609Z MAR 77

SUMMARY: CAPC CHAIRMAN DERENNE (BELGIUM) AGREES THAT
BRIEFING (REFTEL) ON HOW TO ORGANIZE "NATO AIRLIFT
POOL" SHOULD BE GIVEN AT CAPC MEETING APRIL 13-14.
HE ALSO SAW UTILITY OF EXPLORATORY TALKS IN MAY.
CONFIDENTIAL

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DERENNE SENSED POSSIBLE DELAYING TACTIC ON FRG REP'S
PART AT FEBRUARY SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING
COMMITTEE (SCEPC) PLENARY. HE FEELS THAT FRG STATE-
MENT ON THE NEED FOR COUNCIL AGREEMENT, IN PRINCIPLE,
MIGHT BE USED TO DELAY THIS EFFORT. END SUMMARY.

1. MR. DERENNE SHOWED USNATO CEP REP LETTER HE IS
SENDING TO DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION IN BELGIUM
IN WHICH HE REQUESTS DESIGNATION OF BELGIAN REP TO NEW
GROUP TO STUDY "NATO AIRLIFT POOL," THEREBY EVIDENCING

THE ANTICIPATED NEED. HE BELIEVES THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT TASK CAPC HAS AT PRESENT.

2. WHILE DERENNE HAS TENDENCY TO GET SIDE-TRACKED ON MINOR ISSUES, HE HAS GOOD GRASP OF IMPORTANT POINTS. HE HOPES THAT AD HOC GROUP (AHG) ON AIRLIFT WILL FINISH UP ITS WORK IN MAY WITHOUT WAITING FOR FURTHER DATA COLLECTION. OUR DISCUSSION ON 1 APRIL TOUCHED A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT NATIONAL CAPC REPS WHOULD BE MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS (IN MANY CASES). HE AGREED THAT REPS SHOULD BE OF SAME STATURE AS MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING BOARD FOR OCEAN SHIPPING (BPOS), BUT BELIEVED CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IS NOT ABOUT TO COMMIT HARAKIRI. WE AGREED THAT IF SEVERAL NATIONS SENT MORE SENIOR REPS, COUPLED WITH PUSH FROM SCEPC, THAT THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION MAY BE SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED WITHIN A YEAR.

3. DERENNE STATED THAT MOST NATO AIRLIFT QUESTIONS ARE AIRED IN BELGIAN NATIONAL WARTIME BODY, COMIXAIR, INDICATING THAT BELGIANS ARE STILL GENERALLY CONFUSED AS TO HOW US-BELGIAN BILATERALS FIT IN LARGER CONTEXT OF STUDIES SUCH AS SHAPE'S AIRLIFT STUDY. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF REINFORCEMENT FIGURES PROVIDED IN BILATERALS ARE ALSO IN DATA BASE OF AIRLIFT STUDY. WE OPINED THE DATA IS ROUGHLY THE SAME AND THAT BELGIANS ARE NOT BEING CONFIDENTIAL

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ASKED TO SUPPORT TWO DIFFERENT "REINFORCEMENTS."

4. COMMENT: THE FRG POSITION, THAT PRIOR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE AT COUNCIL LEVEL OF RAPID REINFORCEMENT CONCEPT (RRC) (INCLUDING AIRLIFT AND SEALIFT STUDIES), AS REQUIRED BEFORE FURTHER WORK CAN CONTINUE, IS ALSO SHARED BY NETHERLANDS AND, TO SOME EXTENT, BY THE UK. AS A RELATED MATTER, WE SO FAR HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED FRENCH ALONG IN CEP FIELD. CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED TO PRESENT REINFORCEMENT CONCEPTS IN A MANNER WHICH PERMITS CONTINUED FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING FOR USE OF THEIR CIVIL ASSETS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. IN THIS REGARD, WE SHARE IS FEARS THAT WE MAY HAVE PUSHED GENRAL WALTER (FRANCE), CHAIRMAN OF AHG - HANDLING THE SHAPE AIRLIFT STUDY - INTO DANGEROUS POLITICAL WATERS. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT FUTURE WORK OF AHG SHOULD BE DESENSITIZED POLITICALLY AND REMAIN STRICTLY WITHIN TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK. IN THIS VIEN, DISCUSSION OF THE NEED FOR MEETING ON "NATO AIRLIFT POOL" SHOULD BE BILLED AS "EXPLORATORY TALKS" UNTIL COUNCIL AGREEMENT OF RRC PERMITS FORMATION OF A NEW GROUP TO SPECIFICALLY HANDLE THIS SUBJECT. END COMMENT.

5. THE CAPC SECRETARY HAS ARRANGED FOR AIRLIFT POOL

BRIEFING TO BE GIVEN UNDER AGENDA ITEM I - USE OF
CIVIL AVIATION RESOURCES IN AN EMERGENCY.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO001914
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704102/baaabcsq.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 71f4b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USANTO 1792, DTG 291609Z MAR 77
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2664879
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING (CEP): CIVIL AVIATION PLANNING COMMITTEE (CAPC) MEETING - APRIL 13-14, 1977
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
To: STATE SECDEF MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/71f4b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009